

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 ARA-06

IO-11 OMB-01 AID-05 EB-07 ACDA-05 SAB-01 SCCT-01 SY-05

OPR-02 SCA-01 /110 W

----- 031255

O R 261010Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8321

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 0792

DELIVER TO NEA/ARN/DAY AT OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, LE

SUBJECT: POPP LEBANON REPORT

1. CEASEFIRE CONTINUES TO IMPROVE WITH LESS AND
LESS SHOOTING REPORTED, BOTH AROUND CITY AND IN REST OF
COUNTRYSIDE.ISOLATED CLASHES IN TRIPOLI AND BEKAA
APPARENTLY DID NOT AMOUNT TO VERY MUCH. BEAUTIFUL
SUNNY SUNDAY BROUGHT OUT MANY STROLLERS ALONG SEAFRONT
AND ANNOUNCEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE THAT GOVT IS PROCEEDING
WITH RAPID DISTRIBUTION OF FLOUR, DIESEL OIL AND OTHER
GOODS IN SHORT SUPPLY PAST WEEK. OPENING OF ROAD SOUTH
TO SIDON HELPS THAT WAY. POLITICAL FRONT IS ENCOURAGING
AS NEWS REPORTS INDICATE, KHADDAM AND OTHER SYRIANS
CONTINUE TO MEET WITH CHRISTIAN AND MOSLEM LEADERS ALTER-
NATIVELY AND TOGETHER (INCLUDING RIGHT WING MONK LEADER
PERE KASSIS). FRANGIE HAS STILL NOT ANNOUNCED DETAILS
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OF AGREEMENT TO THE NATION ANDWE ASSUME MUCHNEGOTIATING

IS CONTINUING. CHRISTIANS ARE PROBABLY HOLDING OUT FOR MORE PROGRESS WITH CEASEFIRE ON THE GROUND BEFORE ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE MADE OF WHAT THEY REGARD AS CONCESSIONS.

2. KARAME HAS DEFINITELY WITHDRAWN HIS RESIGNATION AND IS TALKING OF AN ENLARGED GOVERNMENT TO REPRESENT ALL PARTIES ONCE CEASEFIRE BECOME A COMPLETE REALITY. TWO MORE LEBANESE OFFICERS HAVE BEEN ADDED TO HIGH MILITARY COMMITTEE CONTROLLING THE CEASEFIRE ARRANGEMENTS, THUS RAISING LEBANESE TO FOUR, ALONG WITH TWO SYRIANS AND TWO PALESTINIANS. COMMITTEE HAS ORDERED OPENING OF MAIN ROADS TODAY (INCLUDING MAINTENANCE OF OPEN ROAD TO AIRPORT) AND ALL ARMED MEN TO LEAVE THEIR POSITIONS ON THE STREETS BY 1800 TOMORROW, JANUARY 27.

3. PLA, WHICH HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH POLICING OF ALL WESTERN (I.E. MOSLEM SECTOR OF CITY SEEMS TO BE TAKING ITS TASK SERIOUSLY AND DEALING SEVERELY WITH LOOTERS AND OTHER LAWBREAKERS. ARMY IS PERMITTED TO REMAIN IN CITY AND CONTINUES TO GUARD CHANCERY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, BUT PLO/PLA STILL HAS GENERAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURITY OF AREA IN WHICH CHANCERY IS LOCATED. WHILE WE CANNOT RULE OUT STRONG REACTION FROM VARIOUS PALESTINIAN GROUPS HERE TO PROBLEM US VETO IN UNSC, WE EXPECT REACTION ON THE WHOLE TO BE TOLERABLE AND HOPE IT WILL NOT AFFECT OUR GENERAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS.

4. THIRD GROUP EVACUEES FROM OFFICIAL EMBASSY FAMILY GOT TO AIRPORT SAFELY TODAY. THERE ARE ONLY A FEW MORE INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS LEFT. WE SHALL BE SENDING THEM OFF IN COURSE OF WEEK. I AM GRATEFUL FOR SECRETARY'S MESSAGE OF COMMENDATION; IT WILL BUOY ENTIRE MISSION STAFF. WE ARE REPEATING IT TO ATHENS FOR INFORMATION OF EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS IN SAFEHAVEN THERE. I SHALL SOON BE SENDING TO DIRECTOR GENERAL SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR MORE SPECIFIC TYPES OF COMMENDATION, PARTICULARLY REFLECTING UNIQUENESS OF EXPERIENCE AMERICAN EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN THROUGH OVER PAST YEAR HERE WHICH I HOPE CAN BE WRITTEN INTO PRECEPTS FOR SELECTION PANELS OF BOTH OFFICER AND STAFF PERSONNEL THIS YEAR.

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LAMBRAKIS

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